

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

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P 092112Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: ITALIAN REQUEST FOR BILATERAL TALKS

REF: ROME 19864

1. DEPARTMENT RESPONDED TO ITALIAN NOTE OF NOVEMBER 23
(TEXT BELOW), REQUESTING NEGOTIATIONS UNDER ARTICLE 11
OF AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT, WITH PROPOSAL THAT GENERAL
DISCUSSIONS BE HELD IN WASHINGTON, JANUARY 10-14.

2. ANTONIO BADINI, SECOND SECRETARY, ITALIAN EMBASSY, IN
ACCEPTING US NOTE, SAID ITALIAN SIDE REALIZED US DEL
WOULD BE CONSTRAINED BY IMMINENT CHANGE OF ADMINISTRATIONS
AND THAT MEETING WOULD BE GENERAL IN NATURE. BADINI
NOTED US SUGGESTIONS THAT CHARTER AIR SERVICES AND AIRPORT
USER CHARGES BE INCLUDED ON AGENDA AND SAID HIS PERSONAL
VIEW WAS THAT CIVILAVIA WOULD PREFER TO SEPARATE CHARTER
MATTERS FROM DISCUSSIONS UNDER THE AGREEMENT. BADINI
STRESSED THAT MAJOR GOI INTEREST WAS TO REVISE THE AGREE-
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MENT, BUT THAT ADDITIONAL, MINOR CONCERNS WERE: CHANGE

OF GAUGE; USE OF 747 ALL-CARGO EQUIPMENT; CO-TERMINAL RIGHTS AT CHICAGO; AND, US AIRLINES' WINTER CAPACITY OFFER. HE INDICATED GOI RESPONSE INCLUDING AGENDA ALONG LINES SUGGESTED ABOVE COULD BE EXPECTED WITHIN 2-3 DAYS.

3. DEPT OFFICER TOLD BADINI USG WOULD KEEP OPEN MIND ON AGENDA BUT PROBABLY COULD NOT AGREE TO DETAILED DISCUSSION OF REVISION OF AGREEMENT IN JANUARY.

4. SUBSTANTIVE PORTIONS OF ITALIAN AND US NOTES FOLLOW:

QUOTE THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT WISHES TO REQUEST FORMALLY, ACCORDING TO ARTICLE 11 OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED AGREEMENT, THAT CONSULTATIONS BE HELD BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVISING AND AMENDING SAID AGREEMENT.

QUOTE IN THIS REGARD, THE EMBASSY OF ITALY WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF THE STATE DEPARTMENT COULD PROPOSE A DATE ON WHICH THE CONSULTATIONS COULD BE HELD, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THAT, AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE MENTIONED ART. 11, SUCH CONSULTATIONS SHOULD BEGIN WITHIN SIXTY DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE REQUEST. UNQUOTE

QUOTE THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES PROPOSES THAT THE REQUESTED CONSULTATIONS BE HELD IN WASHINGTON DURING THE WEEK JANUARY 10-14, 1977.

QUOTE THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WOULD APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED OF THE SPECIFIC ITEMS THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT WISHES TO DISCUSS AND REQUESTS THAT CHARTER AIR SERVICES AND ITALIAN AIRPORT USER CHARGES BE INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA. UNQUOTE

5. DEPT CONCURS WITH EMBASSY SUGGESTION (PARA 7 REFTTEL) THAT DISCRIMINATION ISSUE IS IMPORTANT AND THAT OBTAINING DETAILED OFFICIAL INFORMATION BEFORE CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE USEFUL. DEPT ALSO AGREES THAT PROPOSED CALL ON DGCA COLLINI WOULD BE USEFUL FIRST STEP. BE SURE COLLINI UNDERSTANDS THAT ISSUE IS NOT ONLY ALITALIA'S NON-PAYMENT OF LANDING FEES, BUT ALSO DISCRIMINATORY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TREATMENT WITH RESPECT TO GROUND HANDLING SERVICES.

ROBINSON

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